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November 19, 2019

Senator Clarence K. Lam, Senate Delegation Chair Howard County Delegation 420 Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary, House Delegation Chair Howard County Delegation 101 House Office Building 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: **TESTIMONY OF SUPPORT**: Ho. Co. 36-20 – Howard County Maryland University of Integrative Health

Dear Senate Chair Lam and House Chair Atterbeary,

I am proud to support Ho. Co. 36-20, which would create funding for renovations and upgrades to facilities at the Maryland University of Integrative Health (MUIH)in Laurel.

More than 1,300 students are enrolled in doctoral, master's and certificate programs at Maryland University of Integrative Health's 12-acre campus. In addition to the programs offered to students, the campus is widely accessible to the public including the campus' Sherman Cohn Library and Himmelfarb Art Gallery which hosts research symposia, art gallery displays, clinics and an herbal dispensary. Students can learn about any one of the 125 medicinal plant species planted in the campus' herb garden and campus visitors can receive discounted or free treatments and consultations at the Natural Care Clinic. The health services MUIH provides to our community are necessary and welcomed.

I believe it is important to promote and support all aspects of education, including alternative methods of healing and wellness. This bond initiative will allow the University of Integrative Health to carry out their mission of blending traditional wisdom and contemporary science. Providing funding for necessary campus improvements to attract and maintain students and visitors interested in exploring integrative health care and its important role in keeping Howard County one of the healthiest counties in the nation.

I urge your support for Ho. Co. 35-20.

All the Best,

Calvin Ball Howard County Executive